

Live **Large** Without Leaving Town

Searching for a home within a few miles of uptown that is affordable and features new construction? Visit Whitby Pond, located five miles from uptown, three blocks from Cotswold and six minutes from SouthPark.

Designed in the Craftsman tradition, these suburban-sized homes are ideal for people who want to stretch, for growing families, for individualists who insist on time for themselves over long commutes.

Among the buyers: young families, recently married couples and single professionals in their 20s and 30s.

With rocking-chair porches, community sidewalks and period street lamps, Whitby Pond replicates the charm that one might envision as a typical southern neighborhood. Got kids? Send them outside for the afternoon to enjoy the playground or chase the ducks at the pond. The intimate community feel is enhanced by a beautiful brick enclosure which spans the length of the property along Sharon Amity Road.

"The value is in the location and the square footage you get for the price," said Ray Farris III of Tuscan Development. "We were fortunate to find this property so close in. The small pond already here just made it better, and we were so excited with a family of yellow-crested night herons we found nesting here. We've made the pond our centerpiece, and we're hoping the herons will come back."

And they have. Before beginning work in the fall of 2005, Tuscan waited until the family of night herons had migrated away for the winter. To encourage their return, Tuscan has stocked the pond with fish. A wetland area on the property has also been preserved. The heron family shares the pond with residents such as wood ducks, grey herons and other seasonal visitors.

The homes themselves are as engaging as the neighborhood. Home sizes range from 2,500 to 3,500-square feet. Details such as 10-foot ceilings, granite countertops, divided-light windows, front-yard irrigation systems, fireplaces and high-tech wiring are standard. Millwork featuring three-piece crown molding in main level rooms provides the finishing touch to these homes.

A sampling of the available plans can be previewed at www.whitbypond.com. Among buyer choices are three or four bedrooms; porches full width or cozier; and garages in the basement, attached to the main floor, or detached. ♦

Whitby Pond is located at the corner of Sharon Amity Road and Whitby Lane, three blocks north of Cotswold. Schedule an appointment by calling Valerie Mitchener 704-577-8200 or Margaret Wood 704- 904-6022, at Dickens-Mitchener Realty.

